

WATERFRONT HERITAGE



CELEBRATE OUR STORY

Vol. 13 No. 2
April 2025



Art by Sue Allison

Spring 2025



Spring is here and with it comes preparation for the coming summer. In this issue you'll learn about some of our plans for the coming months and ways that you can get involved at the museum!

We don't have enough to give an update in our newsletter yet, but we're also happy to let you know that we're working on some interesting new things to include at the museum this year. You'll have to keep an eye out for more details!

Our Board of Directors

Chair: Nicole Egan
Vice Chair: Jan Chamberlain
Secretary: Lynda Chiotti
Treasurer: Janet Iles

Stephen Crane

1.

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Join our Board!

The Community Waterfront Heritage Centre is looking for new members for our Board of Directors. If you're passionate about local history and want to get more involved in its operation and preservation, this is a perfect opportunity.

The Museum's board meets once a month and is a key part of our operations. Being a part of the board is a way to get more involved in things like programs, fundraising, exhibit planning, and more. If there's something you want to see at the museum, one of the best ways to make it happen is to become part of the group that makes decisions for the museum.

To learn more about the requirements and obligations of Board Members, call 519-371-3333 or email info@waterfrontheritage.ca.

Kennedy Whistle

As the weather warms, you can soon expect to hear the return of the Kennedy Whistle on the Waterfront. We hope to reactivate it in mid-April for its regular blasts at 12:00 and 5:00 pm.

Join our Board of Directors

The Community Waterfront Heritage Centre is looking for people with an interest in local heritage to help with our mission of preserving local history.

Join us today to be a part of a local heritage site and registered charity!

Preserve our Heritage

Are you:

- Community Minded
- Interested in local history and culture
- Ready to aid with operations and programming

Benefit

- Build your skills
- Connect with the community
- Find friends

Find Out More

info@waterfrontheritage.ca
519-371-3333

Community Waterfront
Heritage Centre
1155 1st Ave. W, Owen Sound



waterfrontheritage.ca



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In the News

Time and time again, we find that no matter how many advancements we make, something will always find a way to go wrong. Such was the case on February 15th when a mayday signal was received from the *Baltic III* as the container ship had lost power and was in danger of being thrown into the the Newfoundland coast.

The vessel had lost power amidst high wind and waves, and it ran aground in Lark Harbour. Despite the high winds, all 20 members of the crew were rescued via helicopter without injury.

The ship has been determined to be too badly damaged to refloat, and continued bad weather has made salvage operations difficult. Efforts have been in successful in removing some hazardous materials like fuel and oil, but lack of road access has been a persistent barrier to operations.

Approval is expected to repair a road leading to the area where the ship is aground, but the work is reportedly likely to take about two weeks to complete, meaning that the ship will be stuck there a while yet.

At the time of the last Coast Guard update, no pollution had been detected in the marine environment, though the risk remained present.



Cargo ship MSC Baltic III grounded in Wild Cove, west of Lark Harbour, Newfoundland and Labrador

MSC Baltic III (Photos From the Canadian Coast Guard Facebook Page)

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AGM

The date for the Community Waterfront Heritage Centre's Annual General Meeting has been set for June 18th, 2025. More details will follow, along with the museums Annual Report which will be sent to our Membership ahead of the meeting.

Please make sure to renew your VIP Memberships, as they ended at the end of the 2024 calendar year. An active membership is required to vote at the AGM.

Chi-Cheemaun Send-off

The Chi-Cheemaun will be departing for its 51st season on Thursday, May 1st. The CWHC will be open to see it off!

Whether you have a ticket for the repositioning cruise or just want to watch the ferry leave, you can step into the museum while you're on the waterfront.

The museum will open at 10:00am and remain open until 1:00pm.

PA Day Activities

The CWHC will be open for the April 11th PA Day from 10:00am to 4:00pm. Drop in to the museum to paint an Ancaster model or Chi-Cheemaun magnet that you'll be able to take home with you! Take part in scavenger hunts, make a Morse code bracelet, or just enjoy the exhibits! We have a nice range of activities for the kids as they have the day off school. Most activities are included in entry to the museum. Some may have a small fee for materials.

If you have questions about our PA day activities, please email info@waterfrontheritage.ca or call 519-371-3333.

Open on Saturdays

The CWHC will be open on Saturdays in April and May! Our regular hours will be resuming on the May long weekend, but as the snow clears from the harbour we couldn't wait that long before starting up with a reduced set of hours.

You will be able to visit the museum each Saturday from 10:00am to 4:00pm. Visits on other days of the week remain available by appointment.

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Membership Renewal

Remember to renew your VIP memberships for the new year! Memberships expired on December 31, 2024. In addition to entry to the CWHC, memberships also grant you gift shop discounts on certain items and voting rights at our Annual General Meeting.

Artifact Adoption

As the new year begins to take shape, it's the perfect time to adopt an artifact! Adopting an artifact is a great way to get involved with preserving local history.

Adoptions last for a 1-year period. When you adopt an artifact, your support for the museum will be displayed alongside it in our galleries. You will also receive an adoption certificate, the history and significance of the artifact, and a tax receipt corresponding to your adoption tier.

Artifacts can be adopted at four tiers: Bronze (\$25), Silver (\$50), Gold (\$75), and Platinum (\$100).

To inquire about adopting an artifact, email curator@waterfrontheritage.ca or call 519-371-3333.

2025 Model Show and Sale

Did you enjoy our first ever model rail show and sale? Then you'll be happy to hear that we're running it again. The 2025 Show and Sale will be on Sunday, September 28.

Interested vendors should email info@waterfrontheritage.ca,



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Ship Watch

We don't have any ship updates to give you, as the *Chi-Cheemaun*, *Oakglen*, and *Algoma Compass* all remain in our harbour at time of writing. You can expect to see some activity shortly. The *Chi-Cheemaun* will depart Owen Sound for Tobermory on May 1st, with the Grey County "Cruise and Connect" and Scenic City Order of Good Cheer "Sunset Cruise" taking place late in April.

In Spring it is also common to see *CCGS Samuel Risley* in the harbour as it arrives to tend the buoys, though we don't know if/when this will happen this year. Unfortunately, we won't be as lucky as Midland where the polar research vessel *CCGS Amundsen* arrived late in March for icebreaking operations.

It is unclear when the *Oakglen* and *Algoma Compass* will depart, as the 2025-2026 shipping season is already underway. Activity around the *Compass* suggests that they are preparing for departure.



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Curator's Corner: Lifesaving...with rockets!

The CWHC recently received a loan of several marine items from the collection of Bruce Shepperd. Notable among them was a Schermully Speedline, a device used to aid in throwing a line of rope a great distance. How was that done? With rockets, of course.

The larger cylinder has a space in the middle where the rocket was located. Pulling the trigger would activate the rocket and launch the line much farther than could be done by hand.

In rescue operations, lines might have to be cast between ships, between ship and shore, or to an individual. Modern line throwers can send their lines over 200 metres.

Modern line throwers appear to still use rockets in many models, though some use pneumatic launch systems as well. Neither was the first idea implemented for improving line throwing capabilities. Rockets were predated by mortars, and thousands of years ago, ropes were being connected to ballista to improve their range.



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